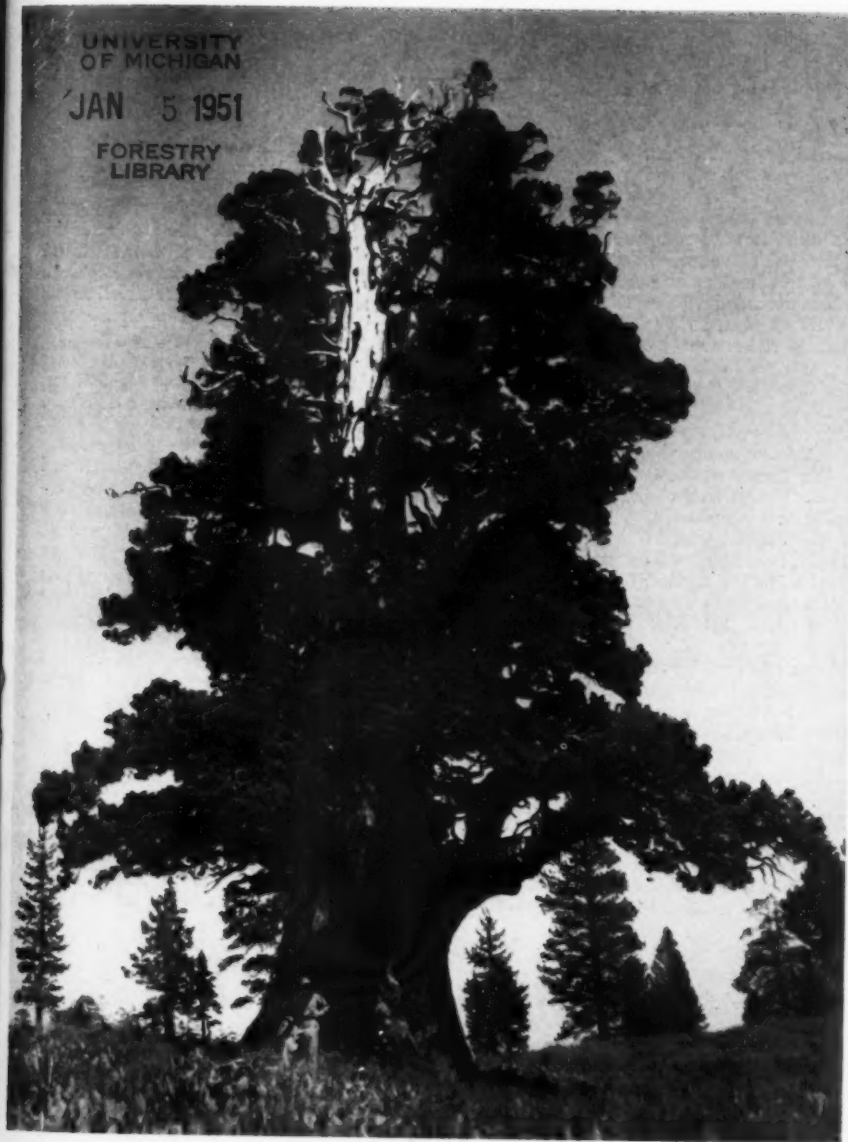


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SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

*December
1950*

Miscellany

Largest juniper? The cover photograph, supplied by Ralph Mocine, is of a mighty large Sierra juniper (*Juniperus occidentalis*), 57½ feet in circumference at the base, 42 feet 9 inches six feet above its base, and 85 feet high. Clarence K. Bennett, who discovered the tree, is said to have made a boring of 12 inches which recorded 700 years. A Carnegie Institute scientist, Dr. Waldo Glock, estimated that the tree is over 3,000 years old.

There are no trees very near the old warrior, but a few hundred feet distant is a small grove of junipers, some of them impressively large; but even these serve simply to emphasize the unique character of the giant.

The tree is in Stanislaus National Forest, about 9 miles west of Sonora Pass, at about 8,500 feet elevation, and is 2½ miles cross country from a point on the Eagle Creek trail 3 miles from Dardanelle. It grows in an extensive and rolling meadow facing southwest. Its soil is good and well watered—a small stream flows almost at its feet.

Marmots in the Olympics are described in a lively and interesting article by Lois Crisler in the November *Natural History*. "The True Mountaineer," as the article is called, gives a wonderful picture of these elusive animals which became familiar neighbors of the Cris-

lers, whose other animal neighbors will be remembered in their remarkable film, "Beyond the Trails."

"Who takes over on a night in June after the last liquid notes of the Sierra hermit thrush are committed to memory? Who starts to work on a night in September after the Douglas squirrel has sent his last Jeffrey pine cone crashing two hundred feet down to earth?..." Lloyd Glenn Ingles answers these questions in *Pacific Discovery* for September-October. If you haven't already read "Night Shift in a Sierra Meadow" you'll enjoy it.

On the Reference Shelf: For those interested in the technical side of photography we recommend Ansel Adams's Basic Photo Series, published by Morgan and Lester, New York, at \$3.00 each. They are: (1) *Camera and Lens*. Studio, Darkroom, Equipment. (2) *The Negative*. Exposure, Development. (3) *The Print*. Contact Printing and Enlarging.

Monthly index: A title page, contents, and index for the first three years of monthly *Sierra Club Bulletins* (1947 through 1949) is available upon request at the club office. It has been available for some time—but we find we've kept it a secret.

THE SIERRA CLUB, founded in 1892, has devoted itself to the study and protection of national scenic resources, particularly those of the mountain regions of the Pacific Coast. Since these resources receive best protection from those who know them well, the club has long conducted educational activities, under the committees listed below, to make them known. Participation is invited in the program to preserve wilderness, wildlife, forests, and streams.

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Sierra Club Bulletin

VOLUME 35

DECEMBER, 1950

NUMBER 11

...TO EXPLORE, ENJOY, AND PROTECT THE NATURAL MOUNTAIN SCENE...

For the December Record

Riparian Rights to Clouds

Cloud-seeding has raised a lot of furor from areas near but not under the seeded clouds. Would these clouds have let their rain down elsewhere if it hadn't been taken from them sooner? Whose rain is it? What are the riparian rights to clouds?"

The California Electric Company has had great success in making more rain fall for the benefit of its hydroelectric plants on Bishop Creek, and without raising any dissension, as it is well understood that the clouds they use would not have gone further or done any good anywhere else. The High Sierra clouds are local, and no one objects, especially as the company reports that the cloud-seeding efforts increased precipitation on the Bishop Creek watershed by 14 per cent last year, and by 12 per cent the year before. The company also says that its cloud-seeding plane has twice been used successfully to combat forest fires. As the *San Francisco Chronicle* in editorializing on this subject put it, "Nimbus-riparian rights or not, who could object to that?"

Outing Dates, 1951

Believing that in times of great stress an outing can be as important a bit of therapy as is a rest leave or furlough, the Outing Committee is going ahead with plans for 1951 Wilderness Outings. Dates and general areas covered are as follows:

High Trip: (1) McGee Creek, Silver Pass, Mono Recesses, July 8-21. (2) Mono Pass, Bear Creek headwaters, Hutchinson

Meadow, July 22-August 4. (3) Piute Pass, Evolution country, Bishop Pass, August 5-18.

Saddle Trip: Bishop Pass to Mount Whitney, about August 20-September 1.

Base Camp: Shadow Creek, below Lake Ediza. (1) July 1-14. (2) July 15-28. (3) July 29-August 11.

Burro Trips: Bishop Pass, Muir Trail, Sawmill Pass (reverse on alternate trips). (1) July 1-14. (2) July 15-28. (3) July 29-August 11. (4) August 12-25.

Knapsack Trips: (1) Giant Forest, Milestone, Cedar Grove, July 8-21. (2) Lake Chelan back country, Cascades of northern Washington, August 6-17.

Clean-up Made Easy

All park and recreation areas have one problem in common. That is the difficulty of educating the public to use them properly and not abuse them.

Not the least of headaches shared by park and forest rangers is that of keeping them clean after heavy public use aggravated by the ever-recurrent tendency of so-called good American citizens to leave behind a lot of trash scattered around the landscape.

A clever solution was worked out during the past vacation season in Mount Rainier National Park, and if officially approved, it may become standard practice in Region Four and quite likely in all National Parks.

As each motorist came through the park entrance checking station, he was presented with a good-sized paper bag made

of extra stout material and conspicuously lettered with the following instructions: "THIS IS YOUR TRASH BAG. Please use it as a container for your waste paper, tin cans, bottles, and other debris and deposit it in one of the trash cans provided for your convenience." Below, it continued, "This is your National Park. Help maintain its beauty. National Park Service, Mount Rainier National Park."

A very encouraging report on this experiment has been received. Previous to the experiment it had been the practice to devote each Monday to roadside clean-up throughout the park, and from eight to ten rangers were so engaged in the White River, Nisqually, Longmire, and Paradise districts combined.

After the experiment had been tried for one week, the papers along the roadside were almost non-existent. Roadsides no longer had a littered appearance. The major parking areas contained a greatly reduced amount of discarded papers and clean-up time was greatly reduced. A total of 5,868 cars containing 23,644 peo-

ple used these areas during this period, and trash bags costing \$.0066 each or a total of \$38.73 were used. This nominal cost was far offset by the reduction of clean-up time from 80 to 28 man-hours. Not only was there a dollar saving, but the man-hours saved could be devoted to more important work by the park staff.

Almost all of the trash bags were placed in the disposal cans. The public reaction was extremely favorable. Much favorable comment was also reported, and without doubt all of the public may have perhaps subconsciously responded to the improved appearance of the Park.

It all goes to prove that the general recreational public is not as reckless or as hopelessly selfish as many conservationists think is the case, but is quite capable of responding properly if it is made easy for it to do so. This whole experiment also gives food for thought as to other experiments which may be tried along this line to meet other problems.

ARTHUR H. BLAKE
in *The Yodeler*, Nov. 8



Merriam Returns to California

It is good news for Sierra Club members to hear that although they are losing one good friend they are gaining another in his place.

With the resignation of Major Owen A. Tomlinson as Regional Director of the National Park Service's Region Four, the Sierra Club is indeed losing a good friend, but only officially, as the Major will continue to live in California and within at least hailing distance of the Bay Region, and we hope, helping distance of the club.

Succeeding him in this important position is Lawrence C. Merriam, well known to many members, as not only was he for-

merly Superintendent of Yosemite National Park, but he was born and brought up in Berkeley. He entered the National Park Service in 1933, and was regional officer in charge of Emergency Conservation Work in State Parks for California, Washington, Oregon, Nevada and Idaho. The last nine years he has been Regional Director of Region Two, headquartered at Omaha. He is the son of the late Dr. John C. Merriam, internationally known scientist and conservationist, for many years president of the Carnegie Institution, and at one time Dean of Faculties at the University of California.

Directors Hold Winter Meeting

The regular winter meeting of the Sierra Club Directors was held December 2 in San Francisco. All Directors were present but Glen Dawson, who was excused. Honorary Vice-Presidents Joel Hildebrand, Walter L. Huber, Frederick Law Olmsted, and Walter A. Starr attended the meeting. Chapters were represented as follows: Dorothy and Russell Varian (Loma Prieta), Vernon Bengal (Mother Lode), Guy Fleming (San Diego), Emerson LeClerc (San Francisco Bay), Arthur B. Johnson (Southern California), Cicely Christy, Nathan Clark, Edgar Wayburn, and Alfred Weiler were also present.

Representatives of the Park Service attended the meeting at the invitation of the Board: Lawrence C. Merriam, new Regional Director for Region IV; Eivind Scoyen, Superintendent, and John R. White, former superintendent, Sequoia and Kings Canyon national parks.

Retirement of Regional Officers

The Board noted with regret the retirement of Major O. A. Tomlinson as Regional Director of Region IV, National Park Service, and of P. A. Thompson, Forester, California Region, U. S. Forest Service, after many years of federal service (see elsewhere in this issue). The Board long enjoyed the cooperation of both men in matters pertaining to their administration with which the club was concerned. The Directors expressed welcome to their successors, Lawrence C. Merriam and Clare Hendee, respectively.

Flow-Maintenance Dams

The proposal to build small dams of native material in order to maintain flow in mountain streams during the dry season was considered by the Directors on September 3 and was then referred to the Conservation Committee for further study and report. An appropriation of \$300,000 by the Wildlife Conservation Board for construction of such dams, and the possibility of continuing appropriations owing to the Dingell Bill recently passed by

Congress, have brought an urgency to the question where wilderness areas of national parks and forests are concerned. The Conservation Committee heard presentation of points of view on both sides. An excellent summation by Professor Harold C. Bradley, stating the advantages and dangers of such dams, was approved by the Board for publication in the annual number of the *Bulletin*.

The Directors then unanimously adopted the following resolution (Kehrlein not voting): *The Sierra Club favors flow-maintenance dams outside wilderness areas, but opposes construction at the present time of any dams within wilderness areas, pending long-term evaluation of benefits realized from and damages caused by systems of such dams.*

It was recognized that Regulations L and U of the Department of Agriculture, defining primitive and wilderness areas, include provisions for the construction of small dams. Twenty years have passed since those regulations were drawn up, however, and the accelerated loss of wilderness has made it important that we reevaluate the effects of conflicting non-wilderness uses. The Sierra Club concludes that the wilderness resource is becoming so valuable as wilderness that it is increasingly important to guard against impairment of the primitive quality of the few remaining areas. For that reason, the Sierra Club urges that the most careful and deliberate consideration be given to the probable ultimate results before any step is taken that could adversely affect a wilderness area.

The President and the Secretary were authorized to present those views to the appropriate officers of the Forest Service.

Trails

In September the Directors considered the question of additional trails in the High Sierra. It was found that this was a difficult problem of balance between overdevelopment and the maintenance of wilderness values, and the subject was re-

ferred to the Conservation Committee, which reported back to the Directors. The Board felt that the Sierra Club is concerned with the problems of maintaining an adequate trail system in the High Sierra wilderness and with the most effective application of funds available for trails. The Board, however, was also deeply concerned lest the wilderness become overdeveloped. The following recommendations were adopted:

1. That adequate provision be made for maintenance of existing trails and construction of certain new trails already approved, such as those on Monarch Divide, and certain replacements noted below.

2. That trails be provided to permit travel on foot or with animals where previously existing trails have been or are to be destroyed by road construction; as at Tenaya Lake, Tuolumne Meadows and Kings Canyon.

3. That no further new trails be constructed until a master plan for the Sierra trail network is developed and approved.

The Conservation Committee was directed to initiate a study of the California recreational trail system. The President appointed a special subcommittee of the Conservation Committee, consisting of Bestor Robinson, Chairman, Arthur Blake, Alex Hildebrand, Arthur B. Johnson, and Walter A. Starr.

Brower then advised the Board that Walter A. Starr had just made another contribution of several hundred dollars to the Publication Fund for the *Guide to the John Muir Trail*. The Board again expressed to Walter Starr their formal appreciation for his continued support of the revision of his son's guide book, one of the outstanding educational publications of the club.

San Jacinto Primitive Area

The Secretary summarized the recent developments, particularly the Secretary of the Interior's ruling that he did not have authority to grant the right-of-way requested for the tramway (see Nov. *SCB*). This legal point was raised only by the Sierra Club's brief as developed by E. W.

Cunningham. After careful consideration of the various alternatives open for further action, the Board referred the matter back to the club officers for continued strong support of the primitive area, with the suggestion that consideration be given to issuing, with the cooperation of other conservation organizations, a public economic analysis of the proposed tramway construction.

Yosemite Valley Master Plans

Ansel Adams pointed out that the recent severe floods in Yosemite Valley make it imperative to revise the master plan. The Board requested the Director of the National Park Service, in considering the revision of plans for Yosemite Valley, to give careful consideration to the opinions of those persons and public groups with special interest in and knowledge of the conditions of the Yosemite Valley.

Whitney Outpost

At the September meeting, the Board considered the conflict between providing relatively easy access to Mount Whitney, as the highest peak in the United States, and upholding the principle of wilderness preservation.

After thorough discussion, the Directors adopted a resolution that the Sierra Club agrees with the Forest Service policy that there shall be no permanent structures in wilderness areas. Therefore, there should be no violation of this principle in the case of the Whitney Outpost.

The resolution was adopted by a vote of eleven to one, Adams voting no, Kehrlin not voting.

Upon motion by Robinson, seconded by Farquhar and unanimously carried, the Conservation Committee was directed to study the subject of concealed structures exclusively for storage purposes in wilderness areas.

Vehicles in the Wilderness

Section 332 of the Fish and Game Code, adopted in 1947, provides that it shall be unlawful for any person other than certain forest and state officers "to travel by

automobile, motorcycle, or other type of motorized vehicle, or to land an airplane, within the boundaries of" seven named wilderness and wild areas within the Angeles, Cleveland, Los Padres, and San Bernardino national forests. Neal Rahm, Supervisor of Inyo National Forest has proposed an amendment to that section to cover all primitive, wild, and wilderness areas of the California national forests. The Directors authorized support of such an amendment.

Tioga Road

A letter was read from William E. Colby, stating that after considering the re-routing of the Tioga Road from Snow Flat across the headwaters of Murphy Creek and around the north side of Polly Dome to the main highway at Tuolumne Meadows, the Yosemite Advisory Board recommended the low route into Tenaya Canyon and along the shores of Tenaya Lake and up the canyon at the head of the lake.

A motion was passed which pointed out that the Sierra Club has always been in accord with the routing of the Tioga Road high up on Yosemite Creek, but requests that no decision be made on the Tenaya Lake alternates until opportunity for further study, and that for this purpose the National Park Service provide the Sierra Club with a copy of the reconnaissance report of the Bureau of Public Roads.

Muir Woods Addition

On August 11, 1950, the William Kent Estate Company executed its deed to the United States of America, conveying 41.87 acres of land contiguous to the Muir Woods National Monument to provide a "buffer strip" which has long been needed for the proper care and management of the monument. In forwarding the deed to the National Park Service, William Kent, Jr., in a letter of September 19, 1950, stated: "In making this gift to the United States of America, all the stockholders of the company join me in expressing thanks for the able manner in which the National Park Service has administered the monument for the many years since the original

gift by their parents, William Kent and Elizabeth Thacher Kent, in 1907."

The Directors expressed appreciation to the Kent family for the continued generosity in making this area available to the people of the nation and the world for all time.

Dillonwood Sequoias

For the past two or three years the Dillonwood Corporation has been logging sequoias in an area on the south boundary of the Sequoia National Park just outside of the park. In this last season some two hundred trees have been cut, resulting in considerable public agitation for the preservation of the remaining trees. The Forest Service advises that the sequoias now being cut are 5-16 feet in diameter. Approximately 500 acres of the property was logged in about the 1870's. In 1946 the Dillonwood owners were informed that the Forest Service would be interested in acquiring their property, providing a price could be agreed upon. The owners, however, were not then willing to sell.

The Board felt that the club must act according to a priority based on recreational and scenic importance of areas. The club will therefore continue to concentrate its efforts upon acquisition of the South Calaveras Grove, but is willing to support public acquisition of the Dillonwood sequoias on a lower priority.

Angel Island Foundation

Angel Island, in San Francisco Bay, long used by the federal government for immigration and customs purposes, was declared surplus property at the end of World War II. San Francisco and Marin counties have since endeavored to take over the island for recreational purposes, and the National Park Service is now to administer the island until it can be disposed of. The Park Service has therefore sponsored an "Angel Island Foundation" to advise on the administration of the area and has requested the Sierra Club to nominate one of the trustees. This being a matter of principal interest to members of the San Francisco Bay region, the mat-

ter was referred to the Executive Committee of the San Francisco Bay Chapter for action.

Cavanagh Bequest

The Secretary reported to the Board of Directors that the Cavanagh bequest of \$2,000 had been received and had been deposited to the credit of the Conservation and Memorial Fund as ordered by the Board of Directors at the meeting of February 4, 1950.

Concessions Policy in Parks

For several years the Sierra Club has expressed to the National Park Service and to the Secretary of the Interior its views with respect to concessions policy within the national parks, views based on extremely close attention to the changing picture of park administration for the past fifty-eight years. The Board therefore authorized the President to express to the Director of the National Park Service gratification for the new policy set forth on October 13 in a memorandum of the Secretary of the Interior, a policy closely in accord with Sierra Club recommendations on this important subject.

New Club Chapter

Under the energetic leadership of Thomas Jukes, a petition was circulated and signed by approximately fifty members of the Sierra Club residing in New York, Connecticut and New Jersey. The petition, received at the opening of the meeting, requested the Board of Directors to approve the formation of a new chapter of the Sierra Club to operate in that general area. In accordance with Article XII of the By-Laws, the Board approved the formation of the chapter and referred the matter to the Executive Committee for working out of final details and the name of the chapter. A telegram of congratulations was immediately dispatched to the new chapter.

Going Light with Backpack or Burro

For several years a manual has been in preparation to explain the techniques of

traveling by knapsack and burro in the mountain regions of the West, the arrangement of the manual to be somewhat similar to that of *The Manual of Ski Mountaineering*. The Board considered such a manual to be of great importance in the educational, scientific, and literary work of the club and therefore approved publication by the Sierra Club, subject to the availability of funds as determined by the Executive Committee.

Morley Outing Fund

William E. Colby has prepared for the *Sierra Club Bulletin* a sympathetic account of the generous contributions that the late Mrs. Frederick Morley made to the Sierra Club over a long period. In her will she left a substantial sum to the Sierra Club with the provision that income from the fund should be used to "defray the expense of taking, as guests, on its annual pilgrimage, persons who could not otherwise afford to go, giving preference to university professors or teachers."

The President was thereupon authorized to appoint a committee of five, to be known as the "Morley Fund Committee," one of whom should be a member of the Outing Committee. The new committee would develop policy and would make final selection from candidates for the outings.

Amendment of Articles and By-Laws

The President was directed to study certain revisions recently suggested and to provide a completed draft of amendments for action by the Board at its February meeting.

Military Leaves

The system of military leave set up for World War II was resumed for the duration of the present emergency. Members going on active duty with any unit of the Armed Forces are authorized military leave upon application. They will thereafter be kept on the membership list, neither paying dues nor receiving publications, until six months after termination of all military leave by the Board.

Other Business

The Treasurer was authorized to advance to the Lodge Committee for use at Harwood Lodge the sum of \$1,500 when funds are available. Whether this is to be a loan or a grant is to be determined by the Board at its next meeting.

A Nominating Committee proposed by the President was approved: Herbert L. Breed (C), Ollo Baldauf, August Frugé, Patrick D. Goldsworthy, Harriet T. Par-

sons; *alternates*: Mrs. Walter Huber, Keith Lummis.

Judges of Election proposed by the President were approved as follows: Catherine S. Tubby (C), Kasson Avery, Ada Chaplin, Edwin Fox, Ida Logan, Frank Schoch, Marion Schoch, Rosa Selle, Charles Spenner; *alternates*: Bessie Lawrence, Hazel Lummis, Lila McKinne, Neva Snell, Oliver G. Tubby.

RICHARD M. LEONARD, *Secretary*

Perry Thompson to Retire as Regional Forester

Perry A. Thompson, regional forester for the California region of the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, announced recently he will retire Dec. 31 after 35 years in the Service.

Clare W. Hendee of Denver, assistant regional forester of the Rocky Mountain region, will succeed Mr. Thompson, according to notice received in San Francisco from Chief Lyle F. Watts of the Forest Service. Mr. Hendee has 20 years' experience in forest resource management in western regions, gained in working from the ground up. With a degree of bachelor of science in forestry from Michigan State College, he started in the U. S. Forest Service in 1931. He served successively as forest ranger, assistant forest supervisor and forest supervisor of Ottawa National Forest in Michigan, 1931-39; supervisor of Superior National Forest in Minnesota, 1939-44; and supervisor of Mt. Hood National Forest with headquarters in Portland, Ore., 1944-46. Since 1946 he has been in the Rocky Mountain states, in

charge of recreation and lands management for that region.

"Pat" Thompson, retiring after a lifetime of public service, is nationally known for his contributions to forest conservation. Son of a back-country newspaper editor, he grew up in the big-timber country of northwest Washington. He worked as a forest guard to finance his forestry studies, and received permanent appointment as forest guard in 1912 in Washington state.

After overseas service in World War I, Mr. Thompson survived some close escapes and scored outstanding achievements during critical fire seasons in the Pacific Northwest. From assistant regional forester at Missoula, Mont., he stepped to chief of personnel management for the Forest Service in 1939. He was chief of fire control for the Service during World War II, when Japanese incendiary balloons menaced western forest resources. He was promoted to regional forester of the California region in November, 1946.

National Land, Water Policy Urged

A number of member organizations of the Natural Resources Council of America recently adopted a platform and preliminary plan of action for the scientific use and development of natural resources, including a basic five-point recommendation that Congress adopt a national land and water policy. . . .

The Natural Resources Council, which includes 34 organizations and societies

having vital conservation interests, set up a committee to assist in the preparation of a comprehensive land policy statement.

Members of this committee include: Ira N. Gabrielson, Wildlife Management Institute, chairman; Carl D. Shoemaker, National Wildlife Federation; C. R. Guter-muth, American Wildlife Foundation; Harry E. Radcliffe, American Nature As-

[Continued on page 12]



Tulainyo Lake from the air; Owens Valley in the background. The lake is enclosed by a massive moraine through which the water seeps out. Photo, by Frank Webb, from *Sequoia National Park: A Geological Album*, courtesy University of California Press.

Highest Lake

If tarns aren't counted as lakes, the Sierra's Tulainyo Lake is the continent's highest.

TULAINYO LAKE (pronounced too-la-in-yo), elevation 12,865 feet, is the highest lake on the North American continent. It snuggles right against the Sierra crest, on its immediate west side, about 1½ air-line miles (and slightly east of) Mount Whitney.

It was named by R. B. Marshall, U. S. Geological Survey, in 1917; the name is a combination of the names of Tulare and Inyo counties. The Sierra crest, immediately above the lake is the boundary between the counties.

The fact that it is the continent's highest lake was established through considerable research by Chester Versteeg who, in early September of 1935, was the first person ever to camp on its bleak and rugged shores and to swim in its ice-cold waters.

Tulainyo is approximately one-half mile long by one-third mile wide and about 500 feet deep. It lies in a great glacier-gouged bowl, dug out by one of the tributaries of the great Kern River trunk glacier, which vanished into thin air long ago. The lake



Tulainyo from the summit of Mount Russell, 1,300 feet above. By Marjory Farquhar.

covers slightly more than 128 surface acres or more than two-tenths of a square mile in area. A body of water having one-tenth of a square mile's surface is considered to be only a tarn.

The temperature of Tulainyo's waters on September 4, 1935 was 38° F. on the surface and 36° 20 feet below surface. Its waters are frozen over for more than eight months of the year. Some ice usually remains on its surface during the summer season.

The snowbank seen in the upper right photo extends along the northwest shore for one-fourth mile and is fifty yards wide; it is fifteen feet high at the water's edge and has eight distinct "snow prows" leaning out over the water.

Tulainyo was planted, at Versteeg's suggestion, with 10,000 fingerling-sized golden trout in 1936, by the California Fish and Game Commission as a high alpine lake test.

From Wallace Lake the last four miles to Tulainyo is without trail, but easily traveled on foot.

Although Tulainyo has but one small, very short feeder and no visible outlet, its waters are truly as "pure as the driven snows"; 999,980 parts per million are pure H₂O.

[Based upon information supplied by Chester Versteeg].

Mount Russell and Tulainyo Lake from the west. Aerial photo by Frank Webb, courtesy University of California Press.



sociation; Charles E. Jackson, National Fisheries Institute; Fred M. Packard, National Parks Association; Howard Zahniser, Wilderness Society, and S. L. Frost, The American Forestry Association.

The statement adopted by the Natural Resources Council follows:

There is today a growing awareness of the fact that land, water, the living resources, and man are intimately related. Resource management must be considered not only in its separate categories, but in its entirety. It is time for the adoption of a national policy on natural resources. Agreement on such an objective will lend force to the successful prosecution of a broad resource-use program, and strengthen the support given to each resource. With these conditions in mind, a majority of the member organizations of the Natural Resources Council of America adopted the following platform and preliminary plan of action on October 2, 1950:

A Land and Water Policy

Principle: Adoption of a national policy by the Congress of the United States to secure in the public interest the maximum benefits from the nation's land, water, and related natural resources.

Action: Coöperate in the preparation of a comprehensive statement and policy designed to insure the permanent wise use of land, water, and related resources and the preservation of natural park and wilderness areas.

An Appraisal

Principle: Adequate inventory of the land and water resources of the nation to determine their condition, productivity, and potential use in relation to a priority of human needs.

Action: Support current inventories of

all land, forest, water, range, and wildlife resources as the proper guide to the utilization and treatment of these resources; and develop other inventories where need is demonstrated in the public interest.

A Goal

Principle: Achieve unified scientific management and perpetuation of land, water, and the living resources in the widest public interest.

Action: Support the rapid development and application of a comprehensive scientific conservation plan for every unit of the nation's land and water; such plans to be appropriately coöordinated with watershed protection and other programs designed for wise resource use and perpetuation.

A Method

Principle: Strengthen individual and group responsibility and participation in the planning and effectuating of conservation activities.

Action: Give continuous support to sound conservation programs on all public and private lands, and as a primary step, encourage the organization and development of soil conservation districts throughout the nation and urge widespread assistance to such districts.

A Motive Power

Principle: Economic, social, and cultural stability of the nation depends on scientific management and use of natural resources in the public interest.

Action: Promote educational programs designed to develop and perpetuate the concept of conservation to the end that all may share in putting them into effect and in enjoying the resulting benefits.

From American Forests,
December

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